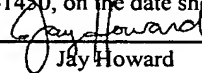


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Curtis Kirker et al.
Date Filed: March 11, 2004
Title: **Centrifuge with Controlled Discharge of Dense
Material**

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EV352387645US addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.


Jay Howard

March 11, 2004
Date

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants respectfully request, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, that the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form be considered and cited in the examination of the above-identified application. Since the present Application was filed after June 30, 2003, a copy of any U.S. Patent and any U.S. Patent Application Publication cited on the attached PTO Form 1449 is not being submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to the July 11, 2003 waiver of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(A)(2)(i) by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Furthermore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h), no representation is made that these references are material to the patentability of the present application.

Applicants believe no fees are due for this Information Disclosure Statement, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P. in order to effectuate this filing.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicants



Patrick J. Porter
Reg. No. 45,658

Date: March 11, 2004

Correspondence Address:

At Customer No. **31625**

Telephone: 512.322.2690
Facsimile: 512.322.8385

PTO-1449 Information Disclosure Citation in an Application			Application No. Unassigned		Applicant(s) Kirker et al.		
			Docket Number 066639.0123		Group Art Unit Unassigned		Filing Date March 11, 2004

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A.	2028168	01/21/36	Roberts	210	76	04/14/1934
	B.	2538529	01/16/51	T.R. Komline	233	20	12/13/1945
	C.	2688437	09/1954	Monnet	223	20	
	D.	3327401	06/27/67	Stamos et al.	34	4	10/07/1965
	E.	3937317	02/76	Fleury, Jr.	198	213	
	F.	3940056	2/24/76	Schmidt	233	20	2/27/74
	G.	3960318	06/1976	Dahlberg	233	4	
	H.	3961746	6/8/76	Werner	233	20	6/28/74
	I.	3967778	07/1976	Hunwick	233	7	
	J.	3977515	08/1976	Lewoczko	198	213	
	K.	4005817	02/1977	Charlton	233	22	
	L.	4015773	4/5/77	Thylefors	233	20	1/27/76

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	M.	870540	03/42	FR	14	6		X
	N.	1038726	10/01/53	FR	5			X
	O.	1632324	10/29/70	DE (with Translation)	B04B	3/20	X	
	P.	0346056	12/89	EP	B04B	1/08	X	

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS		
	DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)	DATE
	Q. International Search Report PCT/US 99/15891, 6 pages	07/12/1999
	R. International Search Report PCT/US 02/13186	09/10/2002
	S. International Search Report PCT/US 02/36830, 8 pages	03/12/2003
	T.	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

PTO-1449 Information Disclosure Citation in an Application				Application No.		Applicant(s)	
				Unassigned		Kirker et al.	
				Docket Number 066639.0123		Group Art Unit Unassigned	Filing Date March 11, 2004
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A.	4027820	6/7/77	Kulker	233	20	8/24/76
	B.	4067494	01/1978	Willus	233	3	
	C.	4070290	01/1978	Crosby	210	91	
	D.	4103822	8/1/78	Stroucken	233	20	6/6/77
	E.	4083488	4/11/78	Gunnewig	233	20	3/2/77
	F.	4149668	4/17/79	Zurbruggen	233	20	1/6/78
	G.	4164317	8/14/79	Nelson	233	20	4/24/78
	H.	4251023	02/1981	Hohne	233	1	
	I.	4288029	9/8/81	Epper et al.	233	20	11/27/79
	J.	4298162	11/81	Hohne	233	7	
	K.	4311270	01/19/82	Hovstadius	233	46	
	L.	4331270	05/82	Humlong	224	32R	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	M.	11330379	10/15/99	JP (abstract)	B04B		X
	N.	2001113204 A	04/01	JP (Abstract)	B04B	½	X
	O.	00/02663	01/20/00	WO	B04B	1/00	X
	P.	02/42004A1	05/30/02	WO	B04B	15/06	X
NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)					DATE
	Q.						
	R.						
	S.						
	T.						
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.							

PTO-1449 Information Disclosure Citation in an Application				Application No.		Applicant(s)	
				Unassigned		Kirker et al.	
				Docket Number 066639.0123		Group Art Unit Unassigned	Filing Date March 11, 2004
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A.	4343431	08/82	Wehling	233	20	
	B.	4375870	3/8/83	Bodelson	494	40	2/23/81
	C.	4379976	04/83	Pitchford	310	83	
	D.	4381849	05/83	Conant	494	43	
	E.	4410319	10/18/83	Zettier et al.	494	29	4/28/82
	F.	4430221	02/84	Spiewok	210	380.1	
	G.	4490133	12/25/84	Zettier	494	27	4/8/82
	H.	4504262	03/85	Forsberg	494	53	
	I.	4505697	03/85	Lee et al.	494	35	
	J.	4514183	4/30/85	Kohlstette	494	27	3/2/83
	K.	4519496	05/85	Ludvegsen	198	676	
	L.	4543083	9/24/85	Bounds	494	4	6/6/84
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	M.						
	N.						
	O.						
	P.						
NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)					DATE
	Q.						
	R.						
	S.						
	T.						
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.							

PTO-1449 Information Disclosure Citation in an Application				Application No.		Applicant(s)	
				Unassigned		Kirker et al.	
				Docket Number 066639.0123		Group Art Unit Unassigned	Filing Date March 11, 2004
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A.	4569761	02/86	Spiewok et al.	210	380.1	
	B.	4581896	04/86	Andresen	60	487	
	C.	4629564	12/86	Pinato	210	512	
	D.	4643709	02/87	Lee et al.	494	37	
	E.	4645485	2/24/87	Neimerg	494	27	11/27/85
	F.	4698053	10/87	Stroucken	494	70	
	G.	4701158	10/87	Inge et al.	494	74	
	H.	4710159	12/87	Gullers	494	27	
	I.	4721505	01/88	Inge et al.	494	74	
	J.	4717376	1/5/88	Bruning et al.	494	40	7/3/86
	K.	4729759	03/88	Krook	494	4	
	L.	4784634	11/88	Schiele	494	56	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	M.						
	N.						
	O.						
	P.						
NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)					DATE
	Q.						
	R.						
	S.						
	T.						
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.							

PTO-1449 Information Disclosure Citation in an Application				Application No.		Applicant(s)	
				Unassigned		Kirker et al.	
				Docket Number 066639.0123		Group Art Unit Unassigned	Filing Date March 11, 2004
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A.	4813923	03/89	Johansson	494	48	
	B.	4820256	04/89	Nordstrom	494	3	
	C.	4840612	6/20/89	Pallmar	494	2	6/17/88
	D.	4861329	08/89	Borgstrom et al.	494	67	
	E.	4925442	5/15/90	Bodelson	494	40	11/16/87
	F.	4978331	12/90	Luchetta	494	37	
	G.	5045049	09/91	Lantz	494	70	
	H.	5052996	10/91	Lantz	494	68	
	I.	5197939	03/93	Cederkvist	494	53	
	J.	5202024	04/93	Andersson et al.	210	360	
	K.	5244584	09/93	Schlieperskoetter	210	787	
	L.	5338284	8/16/94	Knelson	494	28	7/30/92
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
	M.						YES NO
	N.						
	O.						
	P.						
NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)					DATE
	Q.						
	R.						
	S.						
	T.						
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.							

PTO-1449 Information Disclosure Citation in an Application				Application No.		Applicant(s)	
				Unassigned		Kirker et al.	
				Docket Number 066639.0123		Group Art Unit Unassigned	Filing Date March 11, 2004
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A.	5362292	11/94	Borgstrom et al.	494	74	
	B.	5374234	12/94	Madsen	494	53	
	C.	5380434	01/95	Paschedag	210	360	
	D.	5397471	03/95	Rodebush	210	360	
	E.	5429581	07/95	Michand	494	54	
	F.	5601522	02/97	Piramoan	156	172	
	G.	5599271	2/4/97	Eiken	494	37	5/19/94
	H.	5601524	2/11/97	Knelson	494	29	8/4/95
	I.	5618409	4/8/97	Kreill	210	97	9/16/92
	J.	5759744	06/98	Brueck et al.	430	312	
	K.	5779619	7/14/98	Borgstrom et al.	494	56	4/20/95
	L.	5792037	8/11/98	Bodelson et al.	494	40	5/24/96
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	M.						
	N.						
	O.						
	P.						
NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)					DATE
	Q.						
	R.						
	S.						
	T.						
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.							

PTO-1449 Information Disclosure Citation in an Application			Application No.		Applicant(s)		
			Unassigned		Kirker et al.		
			Docket Number 066639.0123		Group Art Unit Unassigned		Filing Date March 11, 2004
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A.	6033564	03/07/00	Kirker et al.	210	232	09/18/1998
	B.	6149572	11/21/00	Knelson	494	37	07/22/1998
	C.	6312610	11/06/01	Kirker et al.	210	781	07/13/1998
	D.	6322698	11/27/01	Rios et al.	210	321.75	06/28/1996
	E.	6248053	06/2001	Ehnstrom et al.	494	56	
	F.	6358193	3/19/02	Nyberg	494	2	9/14/98
	G.	6390964	5/21/02	Mackel	494	14	2/26/00
	H.	6468198	10/22/02	Mackel	494	37	7/5/99
	I.						
	J.						
	K.						
	L.						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO
	M.						
	N.						
	O.						
	P.						
NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)					DATE
	Q.						
	R.						
	S.						
	T.						
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.							